



12-13-04

AF/2662/S  
PATENT  
BfwIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Nils Gura and Hans Eberle

Title: DISTRIBUTED LEAST CHOICE FIRST ARBITER

Application No.: 09/621,031 Filed: July 21, 2000

Examiner: Odland, David E. Group Art Unit: 2662

Atty. Docket No.: 1004-4282-1 Confirmation No.: 4061

December 10, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment  
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- Form(s) PTO/SB/08A (1 page(s), with copy of no reference(s)).
- Form(s) PTO/SB/08B (1 page(s), with copy of 3 reference(s)).
- Listing of Pending Applications (N/A page(s), with copy of no application(s)).
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Citation of such information shall not be construed as (i) an admission that the information necessarily is, or corresponds to, prior art with respect to the instant invention, (ii) a representation that a search has been made, other than as described herein, or (iii) an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

For each item of information listed that is not in the English language, the undersigned has provided a concise explanation of the relevance through (i) an English language abstract, (ii) an English language equivalent application, or (iii) if cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

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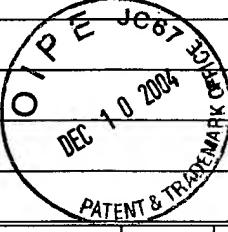
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Respectfully submitted,



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PTO/SB/08A (Substitute for form 1449/PTO)		Attorney Docket No.: 1004-4282-1				
		Application No.: 09/621,031				
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		First Named Inventor: Nils Gura				
(Use several sheets if necessary)		Filing Date: July 21, 2000				
		Group Art Unit: 2662				
		Examiner Name: Odland, David E.				
		Date Submitted: December 10, 2004				
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		
	AA	US-3,676,846	07-11-1972	Busch		
	AB	US-5,550,815	08-27-1996	Cloonan et al.		
	AC	US-5,821,875	10-13-1998	Lee et al.		
	AD	US-6,580,720 B1	06-17-2003	Francis et al.		
	AE	US-6,667,955 B1	12-23-2003	Blanc et al.		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

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<sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

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PTO/SB/08B (Substitute for form 1449/PTO)		Attorney Docket No.: 1004-4282-1	
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initial*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	AA	KAI Y. ENG, MICHAEL G. HLUCHYJ, AND YU-SHUAN YEH, "A Knockout Switch for Variable-Length Packets," IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications, Vol. SAC-5, No. 9, December, 1987, pp. 1426-1435.	
	AB	MARTIN COLLIER AND TOMMY CURRAN, "Path Allocation in a Three-Stage Broadband Switch with Intermediate Channel Grouping," INFOCOM '93, Proceedings Twelfth Annual Joint Conference of the IEEE Computer and Communications Societies, Networking: Foundation for the Future, IEEE, Vol. 3, March 28 – April 1, 1993, pp. 927-934.	
	AC	MARTIN COLLIER AND TOMMY CURRAN, "Cell-Level Path Allocation in a Three-Stage ATM Switch," Communications, 1994, iCC 94, SUPERCOMM/ICC '94, Conference Record, Conference on Serving Humanity Through Communications, IEEE International, Vol. 2, May 1-5, 1994, pp. 1179-1183.	
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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